ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND THE STANDIG FINANCE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT : I have to announce that yesterday at the meeting held under the presidency of the Deputy President for the election to the Public Account Committee.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Sir, before the results are announced, I wish to bring to the notice of the Chair a circumstance which goes against the accepted motions of the way in which the election should be conducted. In regard to the Public Accounts Committee the rule is that the election will be conducted by votes taken according to the principle of proportionate representation by means of the single transferable vote or in such other manner as may be prescribed by the Dewan. Last time it was the single transferable vote. Not that I object to the exercise of the power by the Dewan in changing the mode of voting. But then it was in the ordinary way and notice of it was given to us only just at the time the voting was taken.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. Last time what really happened was the exact details of the working of this single transferable vote was not fully understood and as to the result itself there was a doubt raised as to whether the calculation under the single transferable vote was properly made or not. Therefore, it was considered necessary that the rules as framed elsewhere should be framed here for that purpose. As the rules had not been framed and published, this time the ordinary method was resorted to. The idea underlying the Government is that they should frame definite rules by which the calculations can be entered into.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : My objection is not to that arrangement. But, I ask, should we not have been given sufficient notice?

PRESIDENT : I think the honourabl member has a legitimate complaint in regard to that matter. I think notice might have been given earlier.

MR. A THANU PILLAI : So, I should think that the election was not quite proper.

PRESIDENT : On that, I am fairly clear that under the Rules the Dewan has been given the discretion to frame regulations for the purpose. He has laid it down and it was laid down in sufficient time. I am sorry that sufficient notice was not given to honourable members, but the election is in order.

In the election to the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. M. L. Janardhana Pillai got 32 votes, Mr. Mathai Chemparathy got 30 votes and Mr. K. Narayanaperumal Nadar get 27 votes Messrs. M. L. Janardhana Pillai and Mathai Chemparathy are declared elected.

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[President]

In the election to the Standing Finance Committee,
Mr. Kannara Gopala Panikkar got 31 votes,
Mr. M Sivathanu Pillai got 28 votes,
Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai got 28 votes,
Mr. Kochukora Tharakan got 24 votes and
Mr. A Thanu Pillai got 1 vote.

Mr. Kannara Gopala Panikkar has secured the largest number of votes and is therefore declared elected. As Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai and Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai both got 28 votes lots were cast and Mr. Sivathanu Pillai was declared elected as a result of the casting of lots.

NOTICE OF ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

PRESIDENT: I have received notice of a motion in regard to the adjournment of the House "for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation created by the notice issued by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Travancore University prohibiting students from appearing and giving evidence before the non-official committee consisting of Changanachery K. Parameswaran Pillai Avergal, retired Judge of the Travancore High Court, Rajasabhabhushanan K. Chandy, retired First Member, Executive Council, Mysore and Dr. M. E. Naidu, Nagercoil, constituted by the Public Meeting held at Trivandrum on 8-12-1113, to enquire into the Lathi Charge on students and others in and around the Science College Premises on the evening of 31-11-1113".

The notice was issued by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor who, I may say is the constituted authority under the Univarsities Regulation in regard to all disciplinary matters as to students. The University is in sole charge of discipline of students which, now has been completely transferred to that body an autonomous body which has no connection with nor is dependent on the Government with reference to this topic. The notice is this.

> "The Committee composed of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Director of Public Instruction and Dr. K L. Moudgill has been entrusted with the responsibility of investigating into the the conduct of students in connection with the recent political agitation and demonstrations and this Committee has been given full powers in regard to this enquiry. I am therefore to request that you will kindly inform the students of your College that they are not to appear before any other Committee or Body (official or non-official) except with the previous permission of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor".

Now, as has already been stated by me on another occasion adjournment motions can only be given in regard to matters arising out of the administration.

MR. M. G. MATTHEW: On a point of information. May I know whether the Pro-Vice-Chancellor is an officer of the Government?

PRESIDENT: He is not acting in that capacity. He is an officer of the University and acted as such.

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